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THE NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1861.

MOTIONS FOR THE DAY.
I will suffer death before I will consent or allow my friends to consent to any concession or compromise which looks like buying the privilege of taking possession of the Government to which we have a Constitutional right; because, whatever I might think of the merit of the various propositions before Congress, I should regard any concession in the face of success as the destruction of the Government itself, and a consent on all hands that our system shall be brought down to a level with the existing disorganized state of affairs in Mexico. But this thing will be a long time, as it is now, in the hands of the people, and if they desire to call a Convention to remove any grievances complained of or to give new guarantees for the permanence of vested rights, it is not mine to oppose. [ABRAHAM LINCOLN.]

Inauguration first; adjustment afterward.
[SAMUEL P. CHASE.]

I see it to myself, I see it to truth, I see it to the subject, to state that no earthly power could induce me to vote for a specific measure for the introduction of slavery where it had not before existed, either north or south of that line. Coming as I do from a Slave State, it is my solemn, deliberate, and well-considered determination that no power—no earthly power—shall compel me to vote for the positive introduction of slavery either north or south of that line. Sir, while you reproach, and justly, too, our British country for the introduction of this institution upon the continent of America, I am, for one, unwilling that the posterity of the present inhabitants of California and New Mexico shall reproach us for doing just what we reproach Great Britain for doing to us. If the citizens of those Territories choose to establish slavery, I am for admitting them with such provisions in their Constitutions; but then, it will be their own work, and not ours, and their posterity will have to reproach them, and not us, for forming Constitutions allowing the institution of slavery to exist among them.

THE UNITED STATES REVENUE CUTTER LEWIS CASE, at Mobile, has been captured by the rebels.

The mails for Europe, by the steamship Niagara from Boston, will close in this city to-day at 1½ and 5½ o'clock.

In spite of the high sounding promises of Mayor Thacher, the Pro-Slavery Democrats of Albany succeeded in breaking up an Anti-Slavery meeting in that city last evening. The Mayor was present and made a speech, but no arrest.

The U. S. Senate has passed a bill to provide a Government for the Territory of Colorado. This is the same Territory which last week was called Idaho, that name having been dropped and Colorado adopted.

The Compromise Convention met yesterday at Washington, and sat with closed doors, the press and the public being excluded. Nothing was done but to appoint a Committee on Permanent Organization, who it is expected will report John Tyler for President.

It is reported, apparently on good authority, that Southern agents in this city are negotiating for the purchase of several steamers for war purposes. The two boats Reliance and Resolute, belonging to Capt. Degroot, are particularly mentioned. The police should keep a sharp lookout for these fellows.

Reports were current yesterday at New-Orleans that the attack on Fort Pickens had been commenced by the Alabamians and Floridians, but the rumors could not be traced to any authentic source. Other and more probable accounts state that the rebel forces, despairing of success in attacking the fort without a naval force, have decided to relinquish the undertaking.

The steamship Kedar arrived at this port last night with news from Liverpool to the 22d ult. The new King of Prussia has made a warlike speech to the assembled generals of the kingdom. (Gaita has been blockaded by sea and the bombardment of the city was to recommence on the 21st of January. It is stated that a treaty between Austria, Russia, and Prussia guarantees Austria the possession of Venetia.)

The wife of Lieut. Skimmer, the Commandant of Fort Pickens, arrived at this port yesterday morning with about 70 prisoners of war whom the rebels had captured at Pensacola and dismissed on parole. From a statement made by one of these prisoners, who was at the Navy-Yard at the time of its surrender, it seems to be impossible to acquit Commander Armstrong of the charge of treason, except on the supposition that his conduct was the result of incredible imbecility.

A sharp colloquy took place in the Senate yesterday between John P. Hale and Joe Lane, in which the New-Hampshire Senator told Lane that if civil war came, the first thing that should be done would be to suppress all Northern traitors. To Clingman of North Carolina, who had compared the secession of the South to the going out of the ten tribes of Israel, Hale re-

plied that the ten tribes had left the ark of the covenant behind them when they seceded, and went to destruction so complete that nobody but God knew what had become of them.

The gallant Sherrard Clemens, whose recent speech in Congress against Secession excited such general admiration among the friends of the Union, was yesterday triumphantly elected to the Virginia Convention by the people of his county, together with another determined anti-secessionist. The friends of the Union also carried by decisive majorities the counties of the "Pan Handle," as that part of Virginia is called which lies between Pennsylvania and Ohio. Richmond also has elected two Unionists to one Secessionist, and from Petersburg, Norfolk, Alexandria and in fact all the rest of the State, as far as heard from, Union victories are reported.

We are happy to say that the proposition to send Commissioners to the Virginia Conference at Washington, though not finally acted on in our State Senate yesterday, was well debated and was still undetermined when the Senate adjourned. Mr. Bell of Jefferson County introduced a substitute for the proposition, looking to the calling of a regular National Convention instead of the mischievous and unauthorized conference projected by Virginia. Mr. Bell supported his proposal in a speech of marked ability, and was followed by Messrs. Ramsey, Hammond, and McLeod Murphy with great effect. Mr. Murphy especially denouncing the so-called Democratic Convention which met at Albany last week. We trust the substitute of Mr. Bell will prevail. There is no propriety in the original scheme, whose only purpose was to involve the Free States in some conciliatory Secession compromise.

The proceedings of the Common Council yesterday were not of striking importance. A resolution inviting Mr. Lincoln to pass through this city to Washington passed the Board of Councilmen, but was laid over, after a sharp fight by Ald. Boole, in the other branch. The tax levy was increased by \$263,500 above the Controller's estimate by the Aldermen, and laid over. The granting of a quarter of a million loan for Central Park improvements was laid over, because Mr. Brady said an Alderman who wanted to get a man employed was snubbed, while laborers for the work were "exported" from New-Jersey. It was resolved to reset the payment of \$65,000 to Baldwin & Jaycox, for damages on the gate-house contract, which the Common Council refused to confirm after it was awarded by the Croton Board. This amount of damage was adjudged by Messrs. George G. Barnard and Jacob F. Oakley, the referees, to have been sustained by the contractors, though they never did anything on the work. The Common Council deem the award excessive, and will not pay it.

SIDELL AND BENJAMIN.

Mr. Sidell of Louisiana, in taking leave of the Senate yesterday, indulged in a long and impudent treasonable harangue, which ought to have been promptly cut short by the presiding officer. He declared that an attempt to enforce the laws would be regarded as war, and while he admitted the supremacy of the North upon the sea, he threatened that our commerce would be preyed upon by privateers. With that peculiar folly and ignorance about the North which seems to cloud even the keenest Southern minds, he assumed that New-England and New-York would themselves supply the privateers to harass their own commerce. He closed his harangue with the prediction that the Secession of the South would restore the Democratic party to its ascendancy in the Free States, and that then the Union could be reconstructed on ultra Pro-Slavery principles. This is doubtless Mr. Sidell's expectation. He is no fanatic, and does not worship the negro like his South Carolina confederates. He is too shrewd and wary to believe in permanent Secession, or to suppose that the United States will quietly permit the insignificant State of Louisiana, with her half-negro population of a few hundred thousand, to hold the mouth of the Mississippi. His plan is to play at Secession long enough to frighten the North into concessions to slavery, and thus restore the Democracy to power.

Mr. Judah P. Benjamin followed his astute coadjutor with an outburst of that peculiarly African style of oratory which passes for eloquence with "the impassioned sons of the sun"—"my South"—the taste for which they have evidently smelt in with the barbaric milk of their Congo "nannies." It is not worth our while to waste space on such froth. We shall merely call attention to one characteristic feature of the ravings of these slaveholders. Both of them make passionate appeals to the spirit of Liberty. Both of them speak with bitter scorn of "slavish" submission. "Better, a thousand times better," exclaims Mr. Benjamin, "a rope of sand, aye, the flimsiest gossamer that ever glittered in the morning dew, than chains of iron or shackles of steel. Better the wildest anarchy, with the hope, the chance, of one hour's inspiration of the glorious breath of freedom, than ages of the hopeless bondage and oppression to which our enemies would reduce us." And yet this hypocritical braggart has plunged into rebellion and civil war solely because he fears that the chains, the bondage and oppression in which he and his fellow-traitors hold one-half of the people of Louisiana, may be less secure under Republican than under Democratic rule! It would not be surprising if that oppressed portion of his own people took him at his word, and helped themselves to the "chance of one hour's inspiration of the glorious breath of freedom."

OUR COWARDLY BETRAYAL.

There is hardly anything in this world that does more mischief than cowardice. It is the opened gateway that tempts every species of wrong and atrocity. Fear encourages every outrage. Fear loses all, as Intrepidity saves all. This Government has got where it demands brave men at the helm. We have a few, thank God, and, if we are to be saved, it will be by them, thwarted though they are by the cowardice and constraints of imbecility, which has, unfortunately, lamentably, been elevated to seats of power.

The Republican party seems likely to be as badly off as the Government. It is more than threatened by betrayal. It is to be divided and sacrificed if the thing can be done. We are boldly told it must be suppressed, and a Union party rise upon its ruins, as if the Republican party and its Chicago platform were incompatible with Union!

Fear magnifies the Secession movement into

wholly undue proportions. It trembles in its shoes as though Secession were a mailed giant, capable of spreading ruin and death wherever it chose to tread. Fear cries, "Skulk and hide, turn and flee, Oh Truth, Honor, Justice, Constancy; for Secession, terrible Secession, approaches! Fall on your knees, prostitute and pray, abdicate and succumb, all ye political combinations called Parties, for Secession, terrible Secession, with his lordly strides and his mailed hand, threatens to overwhelm and destroy us all!" Let us look at the monster thus suddenly held up to us by the startled vision and bursting eyeballs of a sickly apprehension, and try to measure its true proportions.

Slaveholding States are departing from the American Union. A number have gone. More are going. Let us assume that all of them, south of the Potomac and east of the Mississippi River, will go out and form an independent confederacy. We suppose nobody is able to doubt that the power now known as the United States of America is able to enforce some of its ideas, at least as to the proper boundaries of the new confederacy. And we suppose it will not be questioned that if this power insists upon great natural frontiers, like the Potomac, the Ohio, and the Mississippi, it will find means to make its determination respected. But we need not stand even upon this presumption. Let us admit that the United States will be very liberal and forbearing toward the new organization, in the matter of boundaries, and in every other way. We will start upon almost any kind of a supposition, for argument's sake, to show what Secession is, and what it promises.

In the first place, the seceding States go out of the old Union on the idea of the right to secede. This right they claim, one and all, denying that there is any authority to prevent Secession anywhere. Of course this, then, is the basis of the new Slaveholding Confederacy. By its terms we see that it will be nothing but a voluntary league of States, from which any member may withdraw at any moment. It comes into being notoriously on this ground. It may be integrated at the pleasure of any one of its members. It will thus be no nation at all, but a mere partnership, a voluntary association of petty States. What sort of a beginning would such a confederacy make in its new career? What kind of a credit would it have among capitalists? What sort of a status would it enjoy among nations? It would have no national credit, and it would have no national character.

Imagine it to have got over the preliminary difficulties of organization, and come to a mutual agreement, which of itself is a severe strain upon the fancy, and suppose it to be fairly started in the race of nations. What then? It is a new Government based upon, and started for, the institution of African Slavery. It is a portion of the old body of the American nation broken away for the purpose of maintaining, spreading, and perpetuating this institution, which it conceives to be imperiled by remaining longer in the American Union. What would be its capacity of carrying out its designs? By the natural expansion of its population, the free Republic of the North would begin to trench at once upon its boundaries on the north, and on the west. Being no longer protected by a common Union, Slavery would recede from the frontiers for safety, and accumulate upon the center. Slavery does not naturally spread, nor lap over upon free communities surrounding it. On the contrary, Free Labor presses upon Slavery wherever the line divides them from one another. This has been our experience within the Union. The same law will be far more efficient and complete in its operation after the Free and Slave States shall have been severed.

But how about the new Confederacy spreading Slavery into foreign countries? We suppose we may safely assume that we should have both the power and the inclination to protect our own uninhabited territories. But Mexico! How long, would it be before the Free United States would have a treaty with Mexico, guaranteeing protection and freedom to her frontier territory? We might, perhaps, become purchasers of contiguous portions. But, either way, Mexican interests and Free-State interests would naturally and of necessity combine to preserve Mexican territory from freebooting Slavery.

What of Cuba? The commercial connections of Cuba and its strategic position belong and refer wholly and exclusively to our maritime interests and population. The independence of Cuba, either as a self-governed or a colonial community, would be at once firmly established and guaranteed by England, France, Spain, and the United States. In respect to other West India Islands and Central America, Great Britain, France, and the United States would be alike interested in protecting them from the ravages of Slavery-spreading filibusters. Separation of the Free and Slave States would be the signal for an instantaneous determination of the Great Powers which we have named to prevent the further spread of Slavery on this continent. The new Confederacy would be utterly powerless to resist that purpose for an instant. It could not raise a man nor fire a gun in that behalf, from sheer imbecility. And thus the hour that sees the commencement of the career of the new Slaveholding Confederacy will register the beginning of its decline. For when Slavery ceases to expand on this continent it begins to die.

The disintegrating process in the new league, if it should ever be formed, would thus very soon commence. That disintegration would naturally begin upon the outlying portions of the new nation. Then would commence the re-absorption of the seceding States by the Free-State Republic of the North. The United States would take first one and then another of the abscending States back to its bosom, just so fast as they could free themselves from the curse of Slavery. And thus, in a comparatively short period, we should have Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee, and North Carolina, and other States, all back again, born anew into the great American Union, and baptized in the cleansing waters of Emancipation.

Such, briefly sketched, is the coming history of Secession, if it shall go so far as to get the States mentioned into its fatal embrace. Instead, therefore, of its being the terrific monster pictured by an unmanly fright, it is really a result not to be seriously dreaded. It may, on the contrary, rather be fairly regarded as a natural historic development of beneficent promise, instead of the unnatural, distorted, hideous-featured movement which it is believed to be by the timid, short-sighted, compromising statesmen of the hour.

Let it be checked, and hindered, and stopped by the natural operation of the Government in

the exercise of its just functions, in just that way, and to just that extent, that a wise regard for the national safety and the future national development shall dictate. We shall thus avoid unnecessary collision with the seceding States, and unite the people of the Free States upon the sure ground of maintaining those national advantages which, after separation, they will find essential to their own security and greatness. We have heretofore often enough intimated what these limitations should be.

FROM SEPTEMBER TO JANUARY.

It would be a curious calculation for some person of a statistical turn of mind to ascertain how many times since the year of our Lord 1860 the dissolution of the Union has been loudly threatened, and what measures of state have been carried thereby to the consummation desired by the slaveholding part of the Confederacy. Many of them we can all remember, and some indeed, are so recent that the grass has hardly yet overgrown the political graves of the men who fell victims to those delusions, and who laid down their lives with a devotion worthy of a better cause to appease the simulated wrath of their Southern masters. But there is no new thing under the sun, for why should there be when the old ones answer all the purpose? The old joke, the old marvel, are precisely as good as though they came a bright and new coinage from some master mind, and the shouts of laughter and the screams of terror are just as earnest and just as real as if they had not been heard a thousand times before.

As it has been in past times, so is it at this moment at Washington. Verily, we believe, however, that now the wolf has come; but the question still is, as it has been always—whether we should run before it, or pursue it, like brave men, even to the death. The proclivity at Washington seems to be to running.

"For the sake of our country, let us not run before it, and thus give it the more." [See.]

On the 4th day of September last, precisely five months ago yesterday, a speech was made at Detroit, Michigan, by one of the most, if not the most distinguished, most philosophical and profound of our statesmen, which is replete with wisdom, is full of calm courage, and breathes the very spirit which is at this moment so much needed among the chosen representatives of the people at Washington, and those who have elected themselves to go there under the pretense of having that distinction. The speech is a review of the Slavery question and its relations to the Union for the past and the future. "To me," says the orator, "it seems that the last forty years have constituted a period of signal and lamentable failure in the efforts of statesmen to adjust and establish a Federal policy for the regulation of Slavery in its relations to the Union." And he continues: "If we may judge from the absolute failures of Mr. Van Buren, Mr. Polk, Mr. Pierce, and Mr. Buchanan, in the respect I have mentioned, and if we take into consideration also the systems which Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Benton, Mr. Clay, and Mr. Webster, severally recommended, and which have subsequently failed to be adopted, we may perhaps conclude that the difficulties of establishing a satisfactory and soothing policy have overlooked even our wisest and most eminent statesmen. They certainly have been neither incapable nor selfish men. No age or country has been illustrated by public characters of greater genius, wisdom, and virtue."

Why was this? Not only because these men had relied upon parties which, in the nature of things, were transitory, resting, as they did, upon foundations that had been laid in compromises of natural justice and human rights, but that "a new and great question, a moral question transcending the two narrow creeds of existing parties (in 1850) had arisen, that the public conscience was expanding with it, and the green whistles of party combinations were giving way and breaking under the pressure."

And this was no hasty view of the character of modern parties, on the part of the orator, for such was his statement as long ago as 1850, "in that high and intensely exciting debate in Congress in the year 1850, which, overruling the Administration of General Taylor, brought the then two dominating parties into a compromise at the time solemnly pronounced final, irrevocable, and eternal, but which was nevertheless scattered to the winds of heaven only four years afterward." But a still more potent reason than the mere character of parties underlies this "signal and lamentable failure" of the efforts of the statesmen of forty years.

As wise, just and virtuous men occasionally err, and need to implore the Divine guidance, "as the wisest, justest, and most virtuous of nations, often unconsciously lose and depart from their ancient, approved, and safer ways." Herein has been our grievous fault, and the orator runs back in eloquent retrospect to the Revolutionary War to show that that lamentable heretofore from ancient wars began not till 1860, when the nation was called to take new measures in relation to Slavery, namely, in relation to its extension into the Territories; "and as," he continues, "a compromise was made which divided the newly-acquired domain between Free Labor and capital in slaves, between Freedom and Slavery." Here was the departure; here was the origin of "the signal and lamentable failure in the efforts of statesmen" for forty years. Since then—we still quote his words—"we have continued the divergent course then so inconspicuously entered; we have defended the moral opinion of mankind, overturned the laws and systems of our fathers, and dishonored their memories, by declaring that the unequal and glorious Constitution which they gave us, carries with it, as it attests our eagles, not Freedom, but personal rights to the oppressed, but Slavery and a hateful and baleful commerce in slaves, where ever we win a conquest, by sea or land, over the whole habitable globe." And this persistence, he declares, "has been entirely unnecessary and unjustifiable." The only excuse was that it was easier to go forward in the path of error than to turn backward. Warnings were disregarded when danger seemed distant, and it was natural to make concessions "to silence the complaints of our slaveholding brethren."

But it was time that we saw our error, reconsidered the practice of forty years' duration, returned and reestablished the original policy of the nation, and henceforth hold that Slavery is and must be only a purely local, temporary and exceptional institution, confined within the Slave States where it already exists, while Freedom is the general, normal, enduring, and permanent condition of society

"within the jurisdiction and under the authority of the Constitution of the United States." And this counsel he gave on the broad ground that Slavery is wrong, and therefore wise; summing up with the impressive statement that "any new combination must be based on the principle of the Southern Democratic faction, that Slavery is inherently just and beneficent, and ought to be protected, which can no longer be tolerated in the North; or else on the principle of the Northern Democratic faction that Slavery is indifferent and unworthy of Federal protection, which is insufficient in the South, while the national mind has actually passed far beyond both of these, and is settled in the conviction that Slavery, wherever, and however it exists, exists only to be regretted and deplored." And therefore he counseled, after enlarging upon all these points, that the country should correct its error of forty years' standing, "because the necessity of a return to the old national way has become at last ABSOLUTE and IMPERATIVE."

This masterly speech is before us in THE TRIBUNE, of exactly five months ago to-day. We have read it with renewed admiration, as the utterance of a wise, far-seeing, and virtuous statesman, who, with a mind above mere partisan politics, foresaw the destiny of his country, cherished her honor and dignity, and based her prosperity upon her faithfulness to the great doctrine of the rights of man.

That speech was delivered by the Hon. Wm. H. Seward. Had it been made five months later, it would have raised him to a pinnacle of fame where men are never placed except by revolution. But from it we turn to that of the 31st of January, in the United States Senate, and we learn that there has, indeed, been for some twelve years or so a question of Slavery in the Territories, but that it has ceased to be "a practical question." Some few dozen men, it is true, have been made slaves in some distant region, but that need not trouble us. There is a more vital question now before the country. An institution which we call the Union, Mr. Seward thinks takes precedence of "natural justice and of human rights." Parties, platforms, interests, principles, "the public conscience," everything, must yield to the demands of the Union. Even the Chicago Platform, that noble declaration of natural justice and human rights, and the great Republican party, in whose creed the moral opinion of mankind, and the laws and systems of our fathers are embodied and honored, must now be "repressed and suppressed," all annihilated and made "to disappear" in the saving of the Union! Such is the last word of a Republican philosopher and statesman. Has he forgotten the 7th of March, and the fate of Daniel Webster?

For forty years, then, after all, there has been no such signal and lamentable failure; the declaration "that the unequal and glorious Constitution which our fathers gave us, carries with it, as it attests our eagles, not Freedom, but Slavery," was simply the truth; the compromisers did no more than their duty in abandoning natural justice and human rights; the life of Mr. Seward himself, so far as it has been distinguished by his advocacy of the rights of humanity, has been a mistake; the Republican party has been, ever since it came into existence, a miserable blunder, to be abandoned now at the first convenient opportunity; the civilization, the morality, the literature, nay, the religion of the world, is in error; and nothing is right but the Union, which the "Southern Democratic faction," who declare "that Slavery is inherently just, beneficent, and ought to be protected," are determined to destroy, unless they can establish this dogma by Northern concession. Mr. Seward of five little months ago has our most cordial approbation, and even our warmest thanks, for his brave and noble words, and our respect for them is too great to permit us to agree with the Mr. Seward of last week.

KANSAS IN 1861.

If any one suppose himself in need of new or striking proofs of human depravity, we advise him to collect and compare the articles of *The Herald* and kindred journals relative to the famine now desolating Kansas, and the efforts systematically made for the relief of the sufferers. If these do not establish the point, it would be idle to ransack the chronicles of Sodom and Gomorrah, were those perditions at hand.

There has been much bitter political controversy with regard to Kansas, and there was for a time a state of virtual civil war prevailing therein four to six years ago, whereof the numbers have hardly yet died out, and there is now great and very general destitution there. The border raids and the famine have barely this connection: had there been no attempt to force Slavery into Kansas by fraud, terror, and violence, it is quite probable that her people would have had more means, more food stored up, and have been better able to bear up under their present afflictions than they are. But the visitation of God which is now chastening them has no relation to Government or Politics. It is caused simply and solely by the fact that, throughout most of the settled portion of the new State, no rain of consequence fell during the last Spring and Summer—very little from October, '59, to October, 1860. Of course, there are indolent, improvident settlers in Kansas as elsewhere, but these are suffering in the main no worse than their energetic, industrious neighbors. In fact, had the filices of Kansas kept their seed out of the ground and their hands in their pockets throughout 1860, they would probably have been in quite as good a position, in the average, as they now are. Some of them planted and sowed from thirty to eighty acres each, yet did not harvest enough to keep a cow through the Winter; many secured a miserable fragment of a crop of wormy corn, which, for want of grass, they have fed to their animals, and thereby lost those animals by disease. Texas and most of the Gulf States were severe sufferers by the intense, protracted drought of last Summer; but their Cotton, Cane, &c., stand much better than Grain crops, so that their loss is, but partial; but Kansas grows as yet little else than Grain and Grass, and her loss is nearly total. Had the prairies yielded an average burden of wild grasses, so that cattle could have been carried through to next June without loss, and not one blade of any thing planted or sown ever appeared above the surface, the people of Kansas would have been less afflicted, less destitute, than they are to-day.

A number have died already of famine, and the diseases thereby engendered; thousands more would have died but for the benefactions already transmitted; thousands must yet perish if the contributions of the benevolent are not continued

and increased. As yet, nothing has been done compared with the extent and urgency of the need. Of the 100,000 people included within the State limits of Kansas, perhaps a fifth have fled from starvation to temporary shelter with friends and relatives in the older States, intending to return to their cabins and quarter-accustomed in the Spring; perhaps twice as many have resources which will enable them to worry through; while the remaining forty thousand, unable to get away, destitute of food and means, must be relieved or must starve. Which shall it be? The acts rather than words of the people of the older States must speedily determine.

The amount actually needed to rescue these forty thousand unfortunates from the jaws of imminent death is not less than \$1,000,000, whereof not more than \$100,000 has yet been contributed, and this mainly in Grain by Illinois and Iowa. From the Slave States, scarcely anything has been or will be realized; but why the Democratic press and people of the Free States should stubbornly hold back, we cannot imagine. The relative strength of the two great parties in Kansas is about four Republicans to three Democrats, and any one can judge as well as we whether a majority of the two-fifths of the people of Kansas who must be saved from starvation by charity is not quite as likely to be Democratic as Republican. If it be paltry to revive party distinctions in view of such a common and fearful calamity, let the blame fall where it ought. To every observer it is plain that the Democrats as a party—with noble exceptions, of course—are not only withholding contributions for Kansas, but are discouraging the movement for her comprehensive relief. One of them starts and others circulate the manifestly villainous lie that provisions are distributed to Republicans only, when in fact all who come are served alike, and no questions asked regarding politics. Gen. Harney officially starts and thousands eagerly circulate the atrocious insinuation that money contributed for the relief of the starving have been perverted to the purchase of arms and munitions for Montgomery's band; when in fact nothing like arms has been distributed or bought, and but very little, even of provisions, has yet been sent to Bourbon and Lima Counties, where alone Montgomery's men are found. But we waste words on these miserable calumnies.

People of the United States! You gave freely for devastated Greece, for starving Ireland, for the Cape de Verde, for Madeira, and (more recently) for the victims of the Syrian massacres. This was right—it was noble—you did not give one dollar too much—and you are not this day a farthing poorer for it all. Well: here are forty thousand of your fellow-citizens suffering, famishing, dying, yet you have done little—far too little—to save them. They must have bread and wool; they should have at least 100,000 bushels of wheat to sow in February and March, and it ought to be going forward at once. It is not their fault, it is your good fortune, that the blight has fallen on them rather than you; and you should, you must, help to bear what is essentially a public calamity. Be entreated, then, to hold meetings, appoint solicitors, and thoroughly canvass your several localities forthwith, and see that it is no piousness business either. And be pleased to consider that whatever money is collected is to be transmitted, not to us, but to the duly-commissioned treasurer of the general movement, John E. Williams, President of the Metropolitan Bank, New-York.

MEXICO.

The latest news from Mexico is more definite and comprehensible than any we have for months received. On the 25th of December, the Liberal army, by whom the forces of Miramon had been utterly routed, took possession of the capital city, on the 1st of January, as we now learn, Gen. Ortega made his triumphant entrance as Commander-in-Chief; and on the 11th of the same month President Juarez, the head of the present Constitutional Government, now firmly established, followed the General. These two ceremonies were attended with the pomp and luxury of display for which the brilliant city has always been famous, and in them the entire mass of the people took part with more than their usual enthusiasm. The way of the conquerors was strewn with flowers, and victorious wreaths bound their brows.

The Constitutional Government has set about repairing the administrative machinery which the long civil war had left in a ruinously dilapidated condition, and several reforms of importance to the welfare of the nation will be introduced. The Church party appears now to be completely broken up, their money being expended and their lands and other property put into private hands; consequently, it will be almost impossible for them to set on foot another revolutionary movement, and the industrial prosperity of the nation will greatly revive. Diaz, once a Minister of Miramon, and his nearest ally, was made prisoner on the very day that the President entered the capital; Miramon himself escaped almost by a miracle. As soon as the news of this capture reached the city, a Cabinet Council was called, and orders were given for the immediate execution of Diaz and all chiefs of that party who should be taken. This decided action gave great pleasure to the Liberals, but before the order could be put into execution, the wife of Miramon, various friends and relatives of Diaz, and even the French Minister, M. Salgny, united in an earnest appeal to the President for clemency; the result was a commutation of this death sentence to one of imprisonment for five years. But this act created a division in the Cabinet, and it was possible that a change of Ministers would ensue on that issue.

The Government has also dismissed from the Capital the Spanish Ambassador, Señor Pacheco, the Nuncio of the Pope, the Chargé of Guatemalan Affairs, and the Chargé of Ecuador. The cause for this step was their intrigues with the Church party against the present Government. It is, however, already made known to the powers represented by them that this expulsion was made on purely personal grounds, and was not intended to affect the relations of Mexico with the several Governments named.

Though, neither the French nor the Prussian Minister has yet recognized the Constitutional Government, it is said that they will soon do so. The English Minister delays his return to the Capital till he has received from home his instructions concerning the money recently stolen by Miramon from the British bondholders. The American Chargé is on cordial terms with the Government.

The prospect now is that Ortega will be the successful candidate for the Presidency, the election for which takes place this month.